Women’s History Month 2023: Xbox Ambassadors Share Their Stories

Community Miss Buffalo Mar 8, 2023

The Xbox Ambassadors community is made up of diverse gamers from around the world and we love to amplify and highlight the voices of these players. In celebration of Women’s History Month, we asked select Xbox Ambassador Community Champions what it means to them to be a woman in gaming.

Thank you to oOGingerAleOo and BlondiebutGeeky for participating in our Q&A. Here are their stories in their own words.

BlondiebutGeeky

What does it mean to you to identify as a woman in gaming?

Means we can all play! Means bringing different skill sets to the table. It does also mean having to prove myself. I am up for the challenge! Paving paths for future women gamers, open doors to more opportunities. I want to help create a space that women feel included and unjudged. I can be just as competitive and enjoy gaming as much as the next. I like hanging out and gaming with everyone. It’s about having fun and making memories.

What is your favorite memory as a woman in gaming?

One of my all-time favorite memories as a woman in a game was when I was able to play the character of Anya Stroud from Gears of War. She worked her way up and earned her position on the Delta Squad. This was a game changer for me. I was thrilled! I got to play a strong woman lead that could hold her own, one that the team could depend on and never think twice that

she was nothing other than their equal. I love that there is more women avatar representation in games. This def was a favorite memory.

From your perspective, what does the future look like for women in gaming?

I think it looks very promising. Ever growing. With more women in the industry, from game developers to hundreds of other roles. Women will be a part of every avenue and making the gaming space bigger and brighter. I watch how the narrative of games has expanded, grabbing the attention of women, and turning them into gamers. Programs like STEM and Women in Games are encouraging women to explore fields they might not normally gravitate towards. Empowerment like this is making huge differences in the growth of women in gaming and technology. We need to raise the awareness and have more conversations about representation for women in gaming.

Who are some of the most influential women characters in game history and why?

From Cortana to Anya. From support characters to main. These characters are strong and carry their own. They've been known to save everything from "tomorrow" (Gears reference) to planets. Many more of these characters and their stories still need to be written!

What are some ways other community members can be allies to women in gaming?

Simple, just play games with them. Get to know them. I would love to have you stop by the Xbox Ambassadors streams when one of the many women hosts, including myself, are playing. They are very welcoming, energized, competitive and inclusive. You can also ask some of your friends, "Hey do you play Xbox?" You might be surprised how many women you know that play AND have bought their own consoles!

As gamers and Xbox Ambassadors, what are some ways that community members can celebrate Women's History Month?

Here are a few suggestions on how I think we can celebrate. Help spread awareness of Women's History Month. Support a women's non-profit. Host a Discord event or on your streaming platform. If you have a podcast or know someone that does, invite a few to chat it up, get the conversation going. Invite women speakers, do some Lunch and Learns. Support Women-Owned businesses. Spotlights! Let them tell their stories. Tweet out some of your favorites, show them some love I believe sharing, educating, listening, and empowering are vital. Keep it positive and inclusive. All gamers should be celebrated!

oOGingerAleOo (she/her)

What does it mean to you to identify as a woman in gaming?

I am glad to stand next to other women in gaming. It used to be that it was rare to find another female when playing online. I am glad that has changed and there are more women wanting to join in.

What is your favorite memory as a woman in gaming?

I would have to say when a younger female gamer came to me and thanked me for helping them. While we look at each other as all gamers, it is nice to be some kind of a role model for younger women.

From your perspective, what does the future look like for women in gaming?

The future looks bright for women in gaming as I see more women joining not just as gamers but holding major roles in the gaming industry.

Who are some of the most influential women characters in game history and why?

The first that comes to mind are Lara Croft and Jean Grey as they are both very strong woman who can overcome whatever comes there way.

What are some ways other community members can be allies to women in gaming?

Always lend a helping hand and remember that those younger than you and maybe even those your same age might look up to you, so always be your best self.

As gamers and Xbox Ambassadors, what are some ways that community members can celebrate Women’s History Month?

Maybe reach out to a female gamer and send them an uplifting or encouraging message about how they may have helped you, what you like about them, or just to tell them to have an awesome day.